

U.S.  
-ARSENAL-

-AUGUSTA : GEORGIA-

HABS NO GA-251  
HABS  
GA  
123 AUG  
18-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of Georgia

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Harold Bush-Brown, District Officer  
Georgia School of Technology, Atlanta, Ga.

123 AUG

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## UNITED STATES ARSENAL

Augusta, Richmond County, Georgia

South of Walton Way on Hill

Owner: United States of America.

Date of Erection: 1829.

Architect - Builder:

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: These buildings are two story with basement.

Materials of Construction: Foundations brick and stone. Exterior walls brick.

Other Existing Records: Georgia's Landmarks, Memorials & Legends by Knight, page 905.

Additional Data: Much of the following information furnished by Lt. Col.

Wm. B. Hardigg: The land was bought 1826. Six original buildings remain.

In addition to (1) the Storehouse Building, there are in this group (2) the Commanding Officer's Quarters, (3) The Assistant Commanding Officer's Quarters, (4) the enlisted men's Barracks, (5) the enlisted men's kitchen and mess room and (6) the enlisted men's Library, formerly the Shop.

High heavy brick walls 22" thick make a quadrangle providing a fort with loopholes for cannon and rifle. This enclosure now has a rose garden in the center of which is a stone sun-dial, 1870, with a bronze face.

The Store House is at the East end of the quadrangle flanked on either side by the Officer's Quarters, the three buildings connected formerly by a brick and iron fence. The Barracks are at the opposite side facing west and the one story kitchen and Mess Hall along the south of the enclosure. Within the quadrangle near the center is the one story Shop, now the Library. To the north the wall connecting the Asst. Com-

123 AUG

18-

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mander's Quarters with the Barracks completes the enclosure.

The Group, designed by army engineers, was obviously planned with a view to defense and could have been held against attack from Indians from the north, south, and west. Towards the East, facing the town, a more open effect obtains, the two Officers' quarters and the Storehouse fronting in this direction. The buildings are of painted brick, simple in treatment, but showing in the handling of mass and proportion some regard for architectural design.

The two story superimposed colonnade of the Barracks was added probably in the 1840 s. Both Officers' houses have four column superimposed porches in front, the use of the orders being somewhat crude. Stone on first story porch floor disintegrating, indicating, according to Col. Hardigg, that they are about 100 years old.

Heavy brick vaulted basement in Storehouse with enormously thick walls, old hoist at back part of building still there. Doors have massive wrought iron hinges. In front there is half an octagon port-cochers with three brick arches. This building was used principally for the storage of small arms.

The Augusta Arsenal is the only U. S. Arsenal in the entire South built East of the Mississippi River. The long brick buildings with castellated walls, near the eastern boundary, forming a separate group, were built during the War Between the States by the Confederate Forces. During this war there was also an Arsenal along the river in the City of Augusta which was used for manufacture of powder and

123 AUG

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ammunition.

*Harold Bush-Brown*  
HAROLD BUSH-BROWN *Feb 8, 1937*  
DISTRICT OFFICER-HABS

*3/11/37 - HAW*